

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

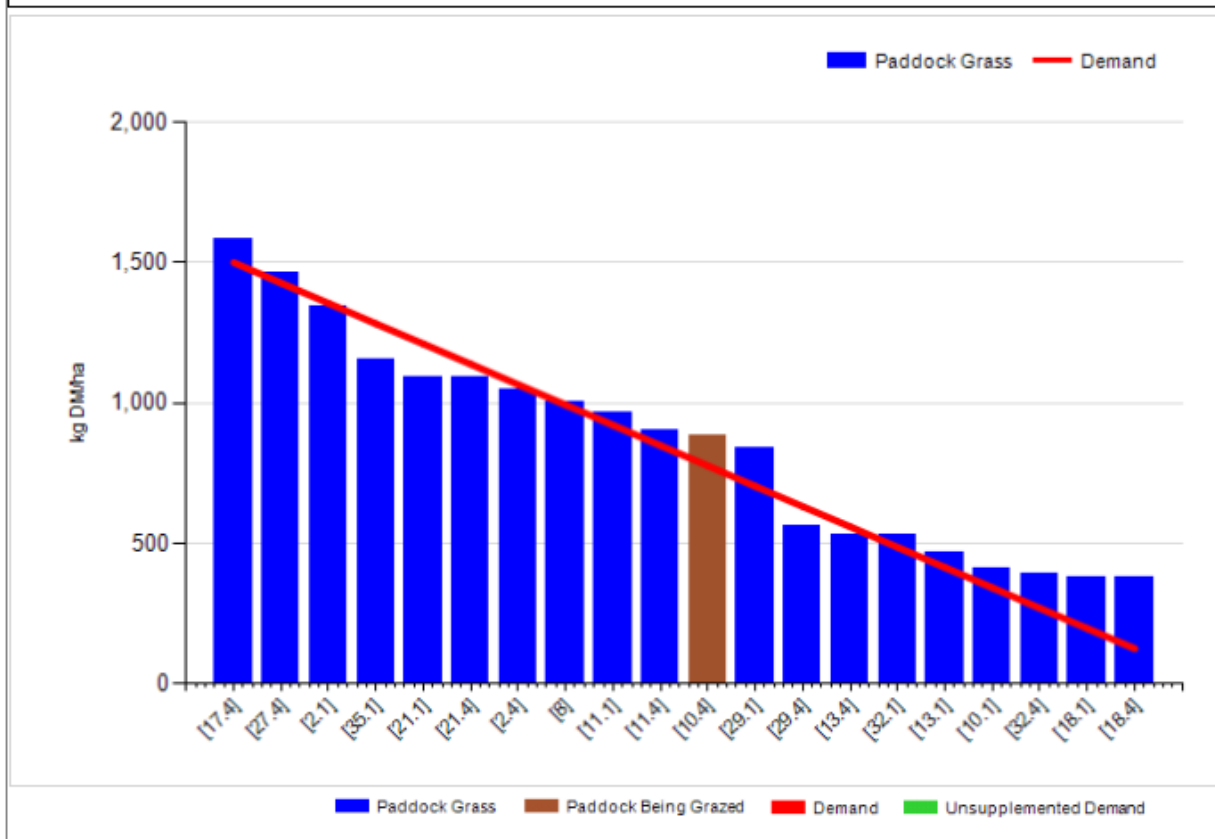
30/05/16

- Great conditions over the past couple of weeks, rainfall for the past 7 days was just 1.3mm & average soil temperature was 14.5 °C. Grass growth continues to exceed demand & should continue to grow well for another week at least, as soil moisture deficits shouldn't impact on growth for the coming week. We've pulled out another couple of paddocks for surplus, its challenging to keep good leafy grass of ~1500kgs ahead of the cows at this time of year & with the growth were getting, we've topped a couple of paddocks that needed to be.
- The breeding season continues – at this stage we'd rather not see cows bulling after spending the previous few weeks willing them to show signs! – all bar one late cow have been served, Beef stock Bulls are running with the heifers. Milk yields on all groups have dropped a bit in the past week – see table.
- 1st cut pit silage was harvested on the 26th May – 10 days later than our original target due to slow spring/weather. Quality should still be reasonably good, as seed heads were only beginning to shoot. We had a mix of yields, with most of the cow grazing area which had been grazed once yielding between 4,500 – 5000kgs/dm/ha. A section of replacement area which had not been grazed would have been closer to the 7 tonne ofdm/ha – we also took a couple of surplus paddocks (~2000-2500kgs/dm/ha). Slurry on the silage ground should be completed today @ 2500gal/ac.

Rotation Length (days):	20	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	19.0	Residual Height (cm):	4.5
No. of Cows:	65		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	0.5		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	19.0	Growth Rate:	92
Total Livestock (LU):	65.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	80
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	851	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1500
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	203	Days Ahead:	11
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	4.20	LW/ha (Liveweight/ha):	



	<i>This week (30/05/16)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	100%
	Milk Kg	21.1	27.7
	Fat %	4.36	3.78
	Protein %	3.77	3.57
	Milk Solids kg	1.70	2.02
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow	19	18
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	0	0
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow		0
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow		
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	0.5	1.0
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 6 th Oct	Mean calving date 17 th Feb
	Days in Milk	237	105
	Milk kg	6066	2719
	Milk Solids kg	463	199
	Concentrate Fed	705 parlour & 740 kgTMR	280kgs